App F IX-1

1937. (Index)

File No. 16C-39

Serial Nos. 1 – 2

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# GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos 2

Part B for January 1940

SUBJECT.

Feeding of Prisoners in the Mayapore Lockup on 1-13 nights.

No 1,15 d/ 17-1-1940.
from Sessions Commissioner

WD 0296—GPB—22,500—18 8 37

Informs him as to diets in para 7 of the rules which may sometimes be given to prisoners during judicial custody

G. R. S. APP. F. III—1]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Mess)

NOTES.

File No. 168-39

FILE HEADING

Feeding the Pilgrims in the Agency chatrum at Benares

FROM

The Agent to the Governor in Madras

No. H.C 80/35-6 Dated 25.11.1937 Received 1.12.1937

| Diary No 817 | Enclos. | Spare copies | Serial No 1 |
|---|---|---|---|

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER

With reference to the G.O. dated 21.11.1932 (1937) states that the Govt Agent of the Chatrum at Benares has solicited further reference to the practice in vogue at Benares whether the practice of feeding certain Madras people living in Kasi Viswa may be followed in the feeding arrangements to the Madras pilgrims as planned and requests orders to continue the Public Assistance by Govt

NOTES AND ORDERS.

T.

1) Till recently there was no such system in the connection with the chatrum at Benares about feeding there at Govt cost. The rates for this purpose were revised by Govt in December 1938. According to rules for the feeding in the chatrum, only Madras (bonafide) pilgrims should be fed there for a day. Up to a limit of 20. The Govt Agent in

NOTES—First Sheet

WD 0283—GPB—3,750—25 1 38

Chatham has pointed out, the practice prevailing from the year 1924, of feeding certain people who are living at Benares for Kasi Yatra and [illegible] desire to [illegible] in the Chatram, [illegible] their [illegible] I have [illegible] that in case the new Rule is followed strictly the [illegible] residents in Benares, who [illegible] at the Chatram [illegible] the allowance [illegible] Chatram.

(2) The Rule is of the opinion that the Rule should not be [illegible] as to [illegible] Brahmin Pilgrims [illegible] Rs. 20 per day.

(3) The Chatram at Benares was established by the late Maharaja Sri Krishnaraja Wodeyar Bahadur III in the year 1822, for the shelter and benefit of the Sadhus and even the [illegible] of expenditure in the Chatram is [illegible] from [illegible] sanctioned by His Highness [illegible] Rs. 2888-3 [illegible] and the Rules, [illegible] be in existence [illegible] any [illegible] of the Rules, [illegible]

(4) [illegible] Rules [illegible] the [illegible] His

Serial No.

Highness. It is therefore a point for consideration whether the Huzur Secretariat may be consulted in the matter.

(5) The Second Member of Council has minuted on a separate note received from the Huzur Court, that there is something to be said in favour of the existing practice. The Huzur Court may perhaps be informed that the existing practice may continue, having regard to the antiquity and origin of the charity preference being however shewn to persons coming from places outside Benares subject to the limit prescribed by the Rules.

A.

6) Submit for orders.

BJ 12/1/26 CS 13/1 1) The correspondence are returned herewith. The Secretariat has been consulted for the Ministerial Secretary's file in the matter of H.H. the late Maharaja Sir Krishnamacharya Wadeyar Bahadur III and not for merely affording convenience to Executive or Judicial Departments, howsoever they could be, and accepted [illegible]

Note-Contn Sheet.

Mug File No. 168 617 of 1939 | General and Secretariat

Serial No.

objection to the land people being fed. Preference may be given to Indonesians, the limit of 20 per day being however enforced to

2m 13.1

Secty

2 members) 8) Jr 13/1/40

9 I agree

KE 13.1

Jr 13/1/40

10. A draft reply with M.E.'s Judgt

BA 15/1

11 Sign 15/1

1575 Cable 17.1.40 2

The M.E. in eight

GENERAL STAFF 13 JAN. 1940 6629

OFFICE OF THE GROUP OFFICER COMMDG. J 5577

TYPING 17 JAN 1940

✓ 20/1/40

To be prosecuted

M. C. 13] Fr 80/35-36

No. C. 25-3

Jamma 168-39-1

OFFICE OF THE MUZRAI COMMISSIONER
IN MYSORE,

*Bangalore*, 28th November 1939

534

FROM

IKN-UL-MULK
S. ABDUL WAJID, B.A.,
*Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore.*

GENL & REV. SECRETARIAT
1 DEC. 1939
817
MUZRAI BRANCH

To

J. Appaji Gowda, Esq., B.A.(Hon.),
*Secretary to the Government of His Highness*
*the Maharaja of Mysore.*
General *Department.*

GENERAL SECRETARY.
30 NOV. 1939

SIR,

Re. Feeding the Pilgrims in the Mysore State Chattram at Benares.

Adverting to G.O.No.802-3/Muz.130-38-2 dated 21-11-1938 approving the rules for the feeding in the Mysore State Chattram at Benares and fixing the number of bona fide pilgrims to be fed in the Chattram every day, up to a maximun number of 20, I have the honor to state as follows.

The Government Agent, Benares, in his report No.148/38-39 dated 30-6-1939 (copy enclosed), reports that since the year 1924--the year in which he took charge of his Office as Government Agent--the practice of feeding certain people who are living at Benares for Kasivasa is in vogue; that the Brahmin pilgrims who go to Benares hardly desire to take their meals in any choultry and that, according to Rule No.(1) of the rules framed for feeding, only bona fide Brahmin pilgrims should be fed in the Chattram, every day, up to a maximum number of 20; and solicits orders as to whether the present practice may be followed in future or the feeding confined to the Brahmin pilgrims as contemplated in the above Order.

The Government Agent who was directed to report as to the authority under which local people are being fed in the Chattram, reports that no orders seem to have been passed re. the mode of conducting the Santarpane and that it is being managed on lines parallel to that of other chattrams in the place.

It is seen from the statement submitted by the Government Agent (enclosed to the file) that the number of local Brahmins fed is very high when compared to the number of outside pilgrims fed in the Chattram.

The present practice is opposed to the orders and I don't think can be countenanced. As definite ruling in this behalf seems to be quite necessary, I request that orders of Government may kindly be obtained to enforce the orders already passed in the matter of feeding only bona fide Brahmin pilgrims who resort to the Chattram, up to a limit of 20 a day.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Muzrai Commissioner.

28.11

Report No.148/38-39 dated 29-6-39 from the Government Agent, Mysore State Charities, Benares, to the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore.

---

Most humbly and respectfully I beg leave to place the following facts for your kind perusal and necessary orders.

I am in charge of this Choultry from February 1924. Since then, poor brahmans, who were living in Benares for Kashivas leading a very religious life, infirm people and brahman pilgrims, the employees were being fed as was done in other choultries such as the Gwalior, Travancore, Vizayanagaram, Cochin, Indore, Notkoti, Kasivada etc. Some of the permanent residents of this city who go to choultries for their meals complained to the authorities of some of the Choulties and made certain allegations which were baseless and most untrue. These acts were committed with the object of threatening the local agent and secure Nityapali etc., under such threats and thus gain their private ends. Such acts by one or two idle and mischevous persons has resulted in reducing the number of persons taking food in most of the choultries. Now it has become a practice in most of the choultries to feed pilgrims, strangers, the needy and deserving.

According to your order No.H.C.80/35-36 dated the 9th Fenruary 1939 only pilgrims to the maximum number of twenty are to be fed every day. The copies of this order are hung up in the choultry for public information as well. In this connection I beg to submit that the brahman pilgrims who come to Benares will hardly desire to take their meals in any choultry and they will be busy with their work. Their number will be very small. Thus if the instruction be followed strictly, it will means that the permanent residents of Benares, whether deserving or not, will be debarred from meals.

Under the circumstances, I request you kindly to let me know whether I should continue the procedure as hithertofore or feed brahman pilgrims only in addition to the emoloyees and those to whom Nityapali is given.

---

"COPY"

M. N. Bramhan

For Muzrai Commissioner

886/39-40

OFFICE OF THE MUZRAI COMMISSIONER
IN MYSORE

*Dated Bangalore,* ..2nd · December 1939.

Dear Mr. Srinivasa Rao,

In continuation of my letter No.C.886/39-40 dated 29-11-1939, regarding the Second Member's intended visit to Benares, about the middle of this month, I herein enclose, for submission to the Member, a Brief Note on His Highness the Maharaja's Chattram at Benares.

cd on 4/12/39.

Yours sincerely,

M. N. Ramachar.

Sub

# N O T E.

SUBJECT:- His Highness the Maharaja's Chattram at Benares.

---:o:---

A copy of the Note on the Subject by the late Mr. G. Aravamudu Iyengar giving details of the origin and previous history of the Chattram is put up.

It is seen therefrom that the Chattram at Benares was established by His Highness the late Maharaja Sri Krishnaraja Wodeyar Bahadur III in 1822 for the Spiritual Benefit of Mahamothosri Cheluvajammanniavaru presumably the step-mother of His Highness. In the Nirup issued in the following year, His Highness ~~xh~~ fixed the Scale of Expenditure in the Chattram with a Tasdik Grant of Rs.2,883-3-3, equivalent to 1040 Pagodas and this continues to be the Tasdik even to-day.

A revised Scale of Expenditure reducing the Scale for Santarpane from 1st July 1929 by Rs.24/- per mensem and limiting the cost to Rs.130-6-8 was sanctioned in G.O. No.1532-3/Muz.30-28-7, dated 4th February 1929.

The Chattram which was originally located in Durga Ghat was sold to the Swamigalu of Sri Vyasarayaswamy Mutt of Sosale ~~which~~ as it was an old structure and situated in an ~~insignificant~~ obscure locality. A new building in Hanuman Ghat was purchased from His Highness the Maharaja of Benares for locating the Chattram in 1919, at a cost of Rs.30,000/-, as sanctioned in G.O. No.1-9/P.P. 197-18-3, dated Camp, Mysore, 9th June 1919, as it was considered advisable

to shift

to shift the Chattram to a more centrally situated locality so that it may be of real use to the Pilgrims who visit Benares. Extensive repairs and improvements have since been effected to the Buildings at considerable cost.

A new block in front of the Chattram adjoining the Ghat was also constructed at a cost of about Rs.50,000/- and this is called the "MYSORE REST HOUSE". This is divided into three blocks as shown in the plan (already submitted for reference). Mysoreans and their relatives from outside Mysore are permitted to occupy the Rest House by the Agent of the Chattram for a period of three days at a time. The Mysore Government Officers on duty and Palace Officers are exempt from payment of rent for the occupation of the Rest House as per G.O. No.1145-6/Muz. 130-38-4, dated 19th January 1939. Draft set of Rules for (1) feeding in the Chattram and (2) occupation of the Rest House have been approved in G.O. No.802-3/Muz. 130-38-2, dated 21st November 1938 (copy sent). The Rest House is equipped with furniture, vessels, electric and sanitary fittings, etc. The important items of works of improvements effected to the buildings, the cost involved and the Government Order sanctioning them are detailed in the statement appended. The approximate cost of the Government property at Benares is estimated at Rs.86,000/- .

The question of ~~outstanding~~ importance now before Government in connection with the Chattram at Benares, is about the Acquisition of a portion of the Katcha Ghat for inclusion in the grounds of the Mysore Government Chattram at Benares.

A short previous history of the Case is given below:--

A small

A small extent of about 40 Sq.ft. not belonging to the Chattram grounds, but forming part of the Katcha Ghat was used up for the Construction of the new Chattram Building. When the building was under construction, the Benares Municipality objected to the construction including this portion. Negotiations were then opened to acquire this small portion wanted for the building. But, when negotiations opened, the proposal developed to the whole of Katcha Ghat measuring about 8,000 Sq.ft. being taken up by Government for constructing a pucca Ghat ~~to~~ on the river ~~margin~~. The Municipal authorities agreed to grant the whole extent on lease for 30 years on an annual ground rent of Rs.50/-.

Government decided to take up the lease of the whole plot of ground No.1339 measuring 10,346 Sq. feet including a pathway measuring 2523 Sq ft. for an annual ground rent of Rs.50/- for 30 years. A Kabuliyat was accordingly executed by the Dewan on a British Indian Stamp Paper of Rs.2/- in 1930 and a patta executed by the Municipal Board in favour of the Dewan was also obtained. Government in their Order No.2306-7/Muz.207A-26-21, dated 19th April 1931 were pleased to direct that, that year's lease of Rs.50/- and the Registration charge be arranged to be paid by the Comptroller immediately to Rai Sahib Madhoram Maniram Sand, Benares, from the Chattram Savings Fund. Sanction was further accorded to the enhancement of Tasdik grant of the Institution to the extent of Rs.50/- on account of rent payable to Benares Municipality from 1931-32 onwards.

Subsequent to the above transaction, one Babu Asharfi Singh filed a Civil Suit (No.41 of 1931) against

against Benares Municipality regarding the ownership of the above piece of ground, in the Court of the Additional Sub Judge and got decision in his favour. The Municipal Board, Benares City appealed against that decision to the Alahabad High Court, who upheld the decision of the Additional Sub-Judge to the effect that the Municipal Board of Benares had no right, title or interest in the land and that it belonged to Babu Asharfi Singh (App.No.277 of 1932).

On 5th September 1932, Babu Asharfi Singh issued through his Counsel, a notice to Government to the effect that he was the rightful owner of the plot in question, that the Benares Municipality had no manner of right over the same, that the land occupied by the State might be ordered to be vacated or if the State was prepared to offer a proper premium and agreed to pay ~~kk~~ rent which might be settled he was prepared to grant the lease of the said land.

A reply was sent to Babu Asharfi Singh by Government in their letter No.575/Nuz., dated 10th October 1932 stating that as the question of title to the plot was still subjudice (the decision of the Allahabad High Court had not yet been given then), the matter would be considered after the disposal of the appeal which was pending before the High Court of Allahabad.

Meantime, Mr. Asharfi Singh had leased out permanently the entire plot under a Registered Lease Deed dated 5th November 1928 to Messrs Basinath Moniram for an annual rental of Rs.20/- with the right to sell, mortgage or lease the land in question.

From the copy of the Registered document, it was found

was found that Babu Asharfi Singh had no right to sell or re-lease the plot, but, his interest in the land was only to the extent of realising the annual rent of Rs.20/- and that in case it was sold, he was entitled to ½ of the sale amount, and ½ of the price of Alma.

In forwarding a certified copy of Judgment of the Allahabad High Court with this Office letter No.1144 dated 25th June 1936 to Government, it was suggested that in view of the High Court decision, the orders previously passed and also the Registered patta and Kabuliyat in favour of the Benares Municipal Board might be formally cancelled.

Government in their letter No.406 dated 14th September 1936 suggested in consultation with the Government Advocate, that the Benares Municipality might be informed through the Agent in Benares of the position created by the Judgment of the High Court of Allahabad and that the Benares Municipality be approached in the matter of refund of the amount of rent paid to it by the Government so far, so that the amount refunded might be paid to Mr. Asharfi Singh who is declared to be the owner of the land in question.

It was reported in this Office letter of 4th November 1936 that except a sum of Rs.50/- which had been paid to the Municipality in the shape of Nazarana, no further payments had been made and that a refund of the above amount was obtained from the Municipality and recredited to the funds of the Institution.

Rai Bahadur Madhoram Maniram Sand of Benares, who was consulted in the matter at the time of his

visit

visit to Bangalore in May 1938, was of opinion that it was necessary in the interest of the Chattram to acquire the land and that the United Provinces Government might be moved in the matter.

Mr. N. Lakshminarasimhaiya, Esecutive Engineer, who was deputed in 1938 to check the measurements of the improvement works executed to the Chattram building, also stated in his letter No.2046 dated 24th August 1938 that the owner of the land was not likely to come to reasonable terms by private negotiation and that it was necessary to address the United Provinces Government and get the land acquired for the Mysore Government for the reasons that the bank at the spot ~~is~~ was eroding every year endangering the neighbouring buildings and that a Pucca Ghat might be put up eventually, etc.

The land as finally proposed to be acquired is 3,593 Sq. feet or .082 acre, which includes 10 sq.ft. on which certain portion of the building was constructed and also 262 sq.ft. taken for the construction of the retaining wall in the year 1927.

At this stage, the owner of the land through his Lawyer Mr. P. Umakant Pande, Benares City, wrote letter to Government on 8th September 1938 claiming compensation for the land alleged to have been encorached upon by the Mysore State in connection with the reconstruction of the State House abutting the Harischandra Road, Benares City. Government called for a report in the matter in their letter No.459/ Muz. 88-38-2, dated 21st September 1938.

In sending a detailed report of the facts of the case as narrated above to Government, it was recommended in this Office letter No.C.1144/31-32,

dated

dated20th October 1938, that in order to avoid further legal complications, the United Provinces Government might be moved to acquire the land on behalf of the Mysore Government for reasons stated above. As regards the claim for compensation put forward by the Lessee, it was stated that in view of the conditions of the lease binding on the permanent lessees who offered the land for sale, that they would not be entitled to construct on the land, Temples, Dharmasalas, etc.,and that they could only transfer their right of parjanti by way of sale of Usufructurary Mortgage, the opinion of the Law Department might be obtained as to whether the Lessees were competent to dispose of the land for the purpose of the Chattram.

On 30th December 1938, the Government Agent of the Chattram at Benares reported that it was learnt that the Lessee of the Katcha Ghat land was going to file a suit against the Mysore Government for the alleged encroachment, etc. This was also reported to Government on 11th January 1939.

Government in their ~~Order~~ letter No.2145/Muz. 88-38, dated 12th June 1939 stated that it was informed by the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore that His Excellency the Crown Representative had been requested to move the Government of the United Provinces to acquire the land in question and that no further reply had yet been received in the matter.

In a further letter from Government No.285/ Muz.88-38-8 dated 15th August 1939 sending a copy of letter No.R.Dis.M.824-38/Pol., dated 1st August 1939 from the Secretary to the Hon'ble the Resident, the views of the Muzrai Commissioner were called for about the conditions proposed to be imposed, and

the cost

the cost that the construction of the Pucca Ghat would involve and the source from which this cost and the compensation amount could be met.

It is stated in the letter received from the Residency that the Government of the United Provinces are prepared to acquire the land in question at Benares for the Government of Mysore on the understanding that the Government of Mysore would build a Pucca Ghat on it which would be thrown open to the Public and that on receipt of an undertaking in writing to this effect from the Government of Mysore, they will start proceedings for acquiring the land. It is also stated that the Market value of the land is estimated at Rs.7,500/- against the owner's demand of Rs.25,000/-.

Mr. N. Lakshminarasimhaiya, Executive Engineer, Bangalore Division, whose views were called for on this, stated in his letter dated 6th September 1939 that the offer might be accepted, that the conditions imposed were also quite acceptable, but, that as the construction of the Ghat might cost over Rs.75,000/- no time limit for its construction might be stipulated.

A report was sent to Government on 8th September 1939 furnishing the views as above and as regards the source from which the cost could be met, it was stated that the cost of acquisition estimated at Rs.7,500/- might be met from the closing balance of the Chattram Savings Fund and that with regard to the cost of construction of the Pucca Ghat, it was suggested that every year, a sum of Rs.5,000/- might be earmarked from the closing balance of the Chattram Savings Fund supplemented by an equal grant of Rs.5,000/- from the State Funds annually till sufficient funds to take up the work accumulated.

Orders of Govt: on this are awaited.

## II. Feeding in the Chattram.

From the copy of late Mr. Aravamudu Iyengar's Note, it is seen that this Chattram was established on lines some what different from those of Anna-Chattrams maintained for the benefit of the travelling public, that the number of persons to be fed daily is not only fixed but also cash presents ( ದಕ್ಷಿಣೆ ) are to be paid to the Brahmins fed, and that this santarpane was intended for the spiritual benefit of the departed Step mother of His Highness the late Maharaja Sri Krishnaraja Wodeyar Bahadur III. It is also stated at the end of para 4 of his note that it is to be remembered that the feeding of Brahmins at so many per day is to be considered the first duty of the Manager, and unless he has previous notice of any party of travellers arriving, he has to send out invitations to the local Brahmins to make up the number and that if travellers should turn up later, they have to go back disappointed. On this score among others, it is stated that complaints of mis-management against the Agent appear to have been received time and again.

As no definite rules were framed regulating the occupation of the Chattram Building and the Rest House and also the feeding arrangements there, it was considered desirable to have a set of rules frameed in this behalf in view of placing the working of the Chattram on a satisfactory basis. A draft set of rules for feeding in the Chattram at Benares and for the occupation of the Rest House attached to the Chattram was framed and submitted to Government as called for, with this Office letter No.H.C.80/35-36, dated 21st October 1938. This was approved in G.O. No.802-3/Muz.30-38-2, dated 21st November 1938.

Copy of these rules was also sent to Government

Government Agent, Benares, for information and guidance.

Rule (1) of the Rules for feeding in the Chattram lays down that "Bonafide Brahmin Pilgrims will be fed in the Chattram every day between 10 A.M. and 11 A.M. upto a maximum number of Twenty."

With reference to this rule, the Agent of the Chattram in his report No.148 dated 30th June 1939 stated that Brahmin Pilgrims who went to Benares hardly desired to take their meals in the Choultry as they would be busy with their work and that if the instructions contained in the above rule were strictly followed, the permanent residents of Benares, whether deserving or not, would be debarred from getting their meals in the Chattram and solicited instructions under the circumstances, whether he might continue the procedure as heretofore or feed brahmin pilgrims only in addition to the employees and those to whom Nityapali is being given.

The Government Agent who was directed to report as to the authority under which, the local people were being fed in the Chattram reported that no order seems to have been passed regarding the mode of conducting the santarpane and that it was being managed on the lines parallel to those of other Chattrams in Benares. From a statement got as to the number of local Brahmins and pilgrims fed in the Chattram for the last 5 years, it is seen that against 1,370 pilgrims fed during the years, there were 32,874 local brahins fed, making a total of 34,244 persons fed for five years commencing from 1934-35 to 1938-39

Government have been addressed on this subject in this Office letter No.H.C.80/35-36 dated 29th November 1939, stating that the present practice is

practice is opposed to the orders of 21st November 1938 and that definite orders enforcing the rules already passed in the matter of feeding only bonafide brahmin pilgrims who resort to the Chattram upto a limit of 20 a day, may be passed.

Orders of Government are awaited.

III.- Complaints of Mis-management of the Chattram against the Government Agent.

There have been frequent complaints time and again against the Government Agent with specific allegations of Mismanagement.

The Chief of the allegations are:-

i) that he is maintaining false accounts of persons fed in the Chattram,

ii) that the commodities are purchased at cheap rates and higher amounts are charged for in the accounts so as to adjust to the allotted amounts monthly,

iii) that no dakshinas are paid to those that dine in the Chattram but amounts are entered in the accounts as if actual payments were made,

iv) that the servants of the Choultry though paid, are being fed in the Chattram,

v) that as the Supervisor does not know Kannada language in which accounts are written, he signs the accounts believing the Agent, and

vi) that the ~~Manager~~ Agent and the Supervisor go hand-in-gloves and that any complaint made against the Agent, will have no effect, etc., etc.

Several such allegations have been made and on several petitions, the report got from the Honorary Supervisor of the Chattram at Benares only showed that the allegations were all baseless and without any foundation. As such, no further action could be taken in these matters as we are not in a position to know from here what goes on at Benares.

Copy of a recent report received on 1st December 1939 from the Honorary Supervisor of the Chattram on the

on the petition dated 24th August 1939, containing allegations against the Government Agent, is submitted to Government with this Office No. C. 479/39-40, dated 2nd December 1939.

There is yet a copy of another petition dated 20th November 1939 addressed to His Highness the Maharaja by the Public of Benares containing definite allegations against the Government Agent received in this Office on 25th November 1939 and it is under issue to the Honorary Supervisor of the Chattram at Benares, who is being requested to kindly go into the matter and send a report after careful enquiry.

MUZRAI COMMISSIONER.

Bangalore,
Dated 2- 12- 1939.

N O T E.

by the late Mr. G. Aravamudu Iyengar

Subject:- His Highness the Maharaja's Chattram at Benares.

---

The Mysore Maharaja's Chattram at Benares was established by His Highness the late Maharaja Krishnaraja Wadiyar Bahadur, III, in the year 1822 (Chitrabanu) and the management thereof was entrusted to Pandit Sesha Sastri (father of Dharmadhhikari Rama Sastri). Sesha Sastri himself was resident at Mysore and the local management of the Chattram was handed over to Shankara Sastry, brother of Sesha Sastry. Shankara Sastri looked after the Chattram during his lifetime and after him, his son, Subrahmanya Sastry and his grandson, Raja Sastri became the managers in succession, and after the demise of the latter, his son, Govinda Sastri, who is the present manager, succeeded to the management.

2. The original sannad establishing the Chattram which appears to have been in the possession of the grantee, Sesha Sastri, is missing. The diary entry of a nirup (Sha Anal) issued to Fouzdar Venkatarajia under date 23rd November 1822, shows that the Fouzdar was directed to pay 900 pagodas from the Treasury to Sesha Sastri for Anna Santarpane in the newly-established chattram at Benares and that the grant is increased by 140 pagodas for performance of pujas at certain temples at the place and for payment of dakshina to the Brahmins fed at the chattram. This total tasdik of 1040 pagodas which in the current coin amounts to Rs 2883-3-3 continus to be the tasdik of the chattram up-to-date. The nirup gives the details of the expenditure to be incurred and this scale practically continues unaltered as will be seen from the appended statement

3. From the terms of the nirup it seems to be inferable that the Chattram in question was established on lines somewhat different from those of the Anna Chattrams maintained for the benefit of the travelling public. The number of ------

persons to be fed daily is not only fixed but also cash pr (dakshina) are to be paid to the Brahmins fed. The occasion in connection with which the Chattram appears to have been established is also significant. In the same diary entries, another entry is found dated the day previous to the abovementioned firups, issuing an Order to the Fouzdar to pay certain moneys to Sesha Sastry who was to accompany to Benares the asti (incinerated bones) of Mahamatho-sri Cheluvajaammani and to perform certain ceremonies at Gaya. The sannad establishing the Chattram if available may be found to explain the object with which Santarpane was instituted, but it is not unlikely that it was intended for the spiritual benefit of the departed--probably, the step-mother of His Highness. Feeding a specified number of Brahmins with dakshina at a holy place is a well-recognised form of spiritual service to the departed and this form of charity may have to be treated as on a different footing from the ordinary form of chattram charity which is intended to cater to the comforts of the needy travellers.

4. The santarpane appears to have been at first held in a rented house. There is no information available when and at what price the present building as acquired. It is a three-storied building situated in Sambu Rao's Lane in Dondh Vinayaka Mohalla near the Panchanganga Ghat. Though situated near enough to the Ganges and at an easy distance of the principal shrines, the building is in an obscure lane without sufficient accommodation to offer comfortable lodgings to travellers. On this score and owing to practice of the manager inviting for the santarpane from the Brahmin residents at Benares to make up the required number daily, complaints of mismanagement appear to have been received time and again. The management cannot be held altogether responsible for this state of things. It is to be remembered that the feeding of Brahmins at so many per day is to be considered the first duty of the manager and unless he has previous notice of any party of travellers arriving, he has to send out invitations to the local Brahmins to make up the number, and if travellers should turn up later, they hsve to go disappointed.

5. The Agent, Govinda Sastry, who had come to Mysore on leave saw me more than once and explained in person the whole situation relating to the chattram. He struck me as a man of character and some learning, in tolerably comfortable circumstances and the affairs of the chattram may fairly be considered to be safe in his hands.

6. As directed by the Dewan a plan of the Chattram building has been obtained and it is submitted herewith. It was prepared by a contractor and gives a fairly good idea of the plan of the building and the accommodation available. The ground floor is said to be not habitable, and the first floor is used for cooking and santarpane. The second floor is used for storing things and office and the third floor which is only covered in parts is mostly left unoccupied.

7. The western wall of the Chattram is owned partly by the owner of the adjoining house and as a portion of the latter had fallen down and the owner was prepared to pull down his half of the wall, thus weakening the Chattram building, his right to the same--the portion marked 'A' 'B' in the sketch--was proposed to be purchased for Rs 30. This would enable windows being opened therein to allow better light and ventilation to the chattram. As a matter of fact, the Agent reported that the condition of the wall and the covered lane adjoining was highly dangerous and that the municipality and the house-owners in the neighbourhood were bringing a great deal of pressure to bear upon him to see to the safety of the chattram building, and as very early orders were recuired, I thought it advisable to act on the representation of the Agent and permitted him to acquire the right to the wall in anticipation of Government sanction. The sale deed has been called for will be submitted separately.

1) Thesaction of the wall marked A B which has partly fallen down since, has to be rebuilt tne whole height of windows opening into the lane for the benefit of all the floors.

2) Whitewashing, wood-oiling and general touching up.

3) In the first floor a portion of the terrace is said to b in a bad condition. The woodwork has to be replaced and terracing newly done.

4) In the second floor, one of the walls of the office roo is said to be badly cracked and has to be replaced.

5) In the third floor the tiled roof has to be repaired and some wood work has to be replaced. A portion of the parapet wal has also to be repaired.

8. The Agent has now submitted a revised estimate for Rs730 to completely repair the building. Here again the estim te has not been prepared by a qualified engineer officer but by a professional maistry. Considering the nature and amount of repairs

to be done, the estimate does not appear to be unduly large. There is a balance of Rs 4668-9-8 at the credit of the institution, and if approved, the estimate may be sanctioned and the repairs taken in hand early. The Agent told me in person that considerably more damage is likely to be caused if the repairs are not attended to early. As it is, a portion of the wall has had to be taken down as it was considered dangerous.

3. I am unable to indicate with any definiteness the directions in which a local enquiry may be made excepting generally as regards the regular conduct of the Chattram. It is to be feared that the execution of the present repairs by a qualified professional agency may mean considerably increased cost. Similar chattrams on very much larger scale appear to be maintained by some other States and private individuals and by comparison, the Lucknow Chattram may not have attracted as much attention locally as in the other cases. Its situation is also responsible for this impression to a great extent. If the Chattram should attract public attention more largely, it will have to be maintained in a more commodious building, centrally situated and affording accommodation at least to the more wealthy pilgrims. This will be a question largely of funds; but I have, however, requested the Agent to be on the lookout for a likely building. There will be nearly Rs 4000 at the credit of the chattram after incurring the proposed expenditure and the existing building may fetch about Rs 3000. With this amount and additional sum of Rs 10,000 to be provided by saving up one half of the annual allotment for the next two or three years, it may be possible to acquire a decent building on a better situation. This would afford more satisfaction and convenience to the wealthier pilgrims visiting Benares. It will, however, be a matter for consideration whether a stoppage of feeding to this extent may be permitted to kill out the nature of the service originally intended.

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"COPY"

K. M. Narasimhan

For Puzrai Commissioner.

1-12-30.

**GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE**

**General and Revenue Secretariat**

No. 1515

*Bangalore, Dated,* 17th January 1940.

Dasara 166-39,2

From

*The General Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.*

To

The Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore,

Bangalore.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.H.C.80/35-36 dated 28th November 1939 regarding feeding in the Mysore Government Chattram at Benares, I am directed to state that the feeding has been instituted for the spiritual benefit of the step-mother of His Highness the late Maharaja Sri Krishnaraja Wadeyar Bahadur III and not for merely affording conveniences to travellers or visitors to Benares. Consequently there could be and ought to be no objection to the local people also being fed. The existing practice of feeding certain people living at Benares for "Kasivasa" may continue having regard to the antiquity and origin of the charity, preference being, however, given to pilgrims coming from places outside Benares, and the limit of 20 per day being adhered to.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

General Secretary to Government.

Aga/2.

Section Resp
File No. 168-39
Serial No. 2.

Diary No. of letter replied to ..... 817 .....

No. 1515

To

The M.C in Mysore.

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

the 193 .

Date of issue ..... 17-1-40 .....

Signed by ..... Asst. S.K.V. .....

List of enclosures .....

Copied by .....

Examined by .....

Sir.

With reference to your letter No. M.C 80/3536 dated 28.11.1939 regarding feeding ~~the Dikshas~~ in the Mysore Ejaz Chattram and Bungalow, I am directed to state that the feeding has been introduced for the benefit of the devotees who go to the Lake Dhanuja in this connection for worship. Extracts ~~from~~ of the rules framed by the Committee in charge of the Chattram and Bungalow are enclosed herewith. Subject to the rules being observed, there appears to be no objection to the